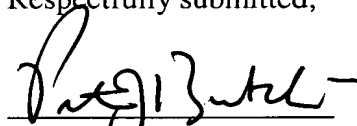


permits the reinstatement of withdrawn, non-elected species claims, provided that the claims are fully embraced by an allowed independent claim generic thereto. Upon determination that one or more of the independent claims are directed to allowable subject matter, the Examiner is respectfully requested to reinstate claims that were withdrawn from consideration as non-elected to which an allowed claim in generic.

The Examiner is also respectfully requested to telephone Applicant's undersigned attorney to discuss extending the dependency of the reinstated claims to other independent claims where appropriate, or if anything has been overlooked in this response to the election requirement. Otherwise, a favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested. If there are any additional charges in connection with this response, the Examiner is hereby authorized to charge Applicant's Deposit Account No. 19-5425 therefor.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: November 5, 2002



Peter J. Butch, III
Reg. No. 32,203

Synnestvedt & Lechner LLP
2600 Aramark Tower
1101 Market Street
Philadelphia, PA 19107-2950
Telephone: (215) 923-4466
Facsimile: (215) 923-2189

PJB/cmm

M:\CMcAvoy\AVENTIS\P24450EUS1 - Response to Election Requirement.wpd